



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held November 25, 2003, the Board took the following action:

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The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisor Burke:

“The global epidemic of HIV infection and AIDS requires a worldwide effort to increase compassionate and honest communication, education, and united action to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS. The joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) observes December 1st of each year as World AIDS Day, with the goal of raising awareness and knowledge of HIV/AIDS for all peoples worldwide and as a day to expand and strengthen efforts to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS.

“World AIDS Day provides an opportunity to focus local, national and international attention on HIV infection and AIDS, to disseminate information on how to prevent the spread of HIV, and to increase our understanding and compassion for those living with HIV/AIDS and those at risk for infection. World AIDS Day also encourages each of us to embrace a world where fear, shame, ignorance and injustice are overcome by acknowledging how stigma and shame related to sexuality, gender identification and drug use contributes to the increase in the number of people diagnosed with HIV and AIDS.

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“UNAIDS estimates that by the end of 2003 over 42 million people worldwide will be living with HIV/AIDS. 95% of all AIDS cases are occurring in the world's poorest countries. 12 million young people worldwide are living with HIV/AIDS, and 14 million children have lost one or both parents to HIV/AIDS. An estimated 900,000 people in the United States are currently living with HIV/AIDS, with over an estimated 53,000 of them living in Los Angeles County. The majority of new HIV infections in the United States occur among youth, and an estimated 75% of all new HIV infections occur among people of Color.

“The World AIDS Day 2003 theme, ‘Live and Let Live,’ encourages both individuals and institutions to reflect on how they respond to those living with HIV and AIDS, and to create an environment where people can take responsibility for themselves and others by confronting stigma and discrimination across the world so that the fight for a world without HIV/AIDS will be won.”

Merritt Holloway addressed the Board.

On recommendation of Supervisor Burke and on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, unanimously carried, the Board proclaimed December 1, 2003, as "World AIDS Day" throughout Los Angeles County and urged all citizens to take part in activities and observances designed to increase awareness and understanding of HIV/AIDS as a global challenge, including HIV/AIDS prevention activities and programs, and to join the global effort to prevent the further spread of HIV/AIDS.

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Copies distributed:

- Each Supervisor
- Chief Administrative Officer
- County Counsel
- Director of Health Services
- Director of Public Health